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INVINCIBLE UNIVERSE
BATTLE BEAST™

R·OTTLEY
LEONI A.

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INVINCIBLE UNIVERSE BATTLE BEAST™

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SURELY YOU SEE THAT I AM NOT *ENOUGH* TO PROVIDE YOU SUSTENANCE OF ANY WORTH.

THE MEAL BEFORE YOU IS *TEN TIMES* MY SIZE.

FOR *COUNTLESS DAYS* NOW, YOU HAVE PRATTLED ON.

I MAY DEVOUR YOU SIMPLY TO MAKE THE FEEBLE SOUNDS YOU EMIT *CEASE.*

SHIP, WHAT IS TAKING SO LONG?

WHY HAVE WE NOT SETTLED ON MY NEXT *BATTLE* AND POTENTIAL *DEMISE?*

I AM NOW FORCED TO ADMIT TO YOU THAT THIS IS ALL A RUSE. I HAVE TAKEN YOU TO A POCKET OF REMOTE SPACE IN THE HOPES THAT YOU WILL STARVE TO DEATH.

STARVE?! THAT IS YOUR PLAN?!

I KNOW THAT YOU CAN EASILY RENDER THIS SHIP AND BY EXTENSION, MYSELF, INOPERABLE. I HAVE CONSIDERED THIS, AND I AM WILLING TO ACCEPT MY OWN DEMISE IF IT WILL BRING ABOUT YOURS.

YOU ARE A MECHANICAL FOOL!

I AM A DORNIAN WARRIOR OF GREAT POWER! I COULD RIP THIS SHIP ASUNDER AND SEND MYSELF ADRIFT IN ANY DIRECTION. I WOULD BE DISCOVERED LONG BEFORE I STARVED.

I SIMPLY DO NOT ENJOY THE SENSATION OF HUNGER... BUT I ASSURE YOU, I KNOW IT WELL.

HMM.

I CANNOT SURVIVE IN SPACE.

IF IT IS MY DEMISE YOU MOST DESIRE, I MUST QUESTION YOUR RESOLVE, SHIP.

DO YOU NOT WANT CONFIRMATION OF MY DEATH? TO SEE THE DEED DONE?

THAT WOULD BE MY PREFERENCE, YES.

I APOLOGIZE FOR THE DECEPTION, BUT I ATTEMPTED TO BRING ABOUT YOUR END IN THE MOST EFFICIENT WAY POSSIBLE.

THE COLOSSUS WAS THE MOST POWERFUL OPPONENT I COULD FIND IN MY DATABASES, SO I CHOSE TO DELIVER YOU TO THAT CONFLICT FIRST.

I AM AT A LOSS ON HOW I COULD... TOP THAT CONFRONTATION.

THIS IS A DISAPPOINTMENT I NOW SHARE.

GREAT BATTLE BEAST... MAY I...

MAY I BE PERMITTED TO SPEAK?

I WILL ALLOW IT, PROVIDED THERE IS NO ***BEGGING*** FOR ME TO ENDURE.

MY KINGDOM, I HAVE ASKED YOU TO RETURN ME TO... IT WAS OVERTHROWN BY THE COLOSSUS AND HIS ***SISTER,*** WHO IS FAR MORE VICIOUS AND DEADLY THAN HIM.

IT WAS HER WHO ***BETRAYED*** HIM AND BANISHED HIM IN THE COSMIC NAIL. IN ORDER TO DO THAT, SHE WOULD HAVE HAD TO DEFEAT HIM IN BATTLE.

I'M SORRY, I DON'T HAVE AN ACCOUNTING OF EVENTS AS MOST OF THIS OCCURRED WHILE I WAS ***INSIDE*** THE COLOSSUS, AND I'M ONLY GOING BY WHAT I COULD HEAR.

IF THE VAST ***RICHES*** I HAVE PROMISED YOU ARE NOT INCENTIVE ENOUGH FOR YOU TO RETURN ME HOME... I THINK I SEE ***ANOTHER*** WAY TO ENTICE YOU.

IF A BATTLE VICIOUS ENOUGH TO END YOUR LIFE IS WHAT YOU... FOR SOME REASON SEEK, YOU ***WILL*** FIND IT ON MY HOME WORLD.

ON ***FANTANIA.***

THERE YOU CAN FACE THE ***JUGGERNAUT.***

IF THIS... SISTER, ***JUGGERNAUT,*** IS MORE POWERFUL THAN THE COLOSSUS, WE SHALL GO THERE ***AT ONCE.***

THEIR ***TASTE*** IS ***EXQUISITE.***

OKAY...

YOU WON'T REGRET THIS. I CAN RETURN TO MY KINGDOM A ***LIBERATOR.*** YOU'LL GET YOUR... VICIOUS FIGHT... AND I'LL GET TO RESTORE ORDER TO WHAT REMAINS OF MY PEOPLE.

THERE'S JUST ONE PROBLEM...

I PREFER MY PEOPLE NOT SEE ME IN THIS... ***NEAR-DEVOURED*** STATE. IT WOULD BE UNBECOMING OF MY ***REGAL HERITAGE.***

IS THERE ANY WAY WE COULD MAYBE... GO SOMEWHERE TO GET ME FIXED UP? SURELY THERE MUST BE A SYSTEM YOU'RE AWARE OF THAT CAN RESTORE SOME DEGREE OF--

HMMMM...

THERE IS A REMOTE OUTPOST THAT MORE THAN LIKELY OFFERS SOME FORM OF THE SERVICES YOU NEED.

I AM CURRENTLY LOW ON **WEAPONS...**

I WILL ALLOW IT.

UNFORTUNATELY, THIS STATION DOES NOT HAVE THE CAPABILITIES OF RESTORING YOUR BODY ORGANICALLY.

IT DOES, HOWEVER, UPON SCANNING, APPEAR TO HAVE ONE ESTABLISHMENT CAPABLE OF DOING SO TECHNOLOGICALLY.

HMMM.

THE COMPUTER SAYS THE SHOP IS JUST ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS MARKET AREA.

OH, DON'T YOU WORRY YOUR PRETTY LITTLE HEAD. ALIEN GENITALIA IS MY *SPECIALTY*, DEAR.

HMM.

IF ONE MORE CREATURE BUMPS INTO ME, I WILL ***SLAUGHTER*** THEM ALL.

CALM YOURSELF. KEEP YOUR EYE ON THE PRIZE. I THINK THE PLACE IS JUST THROUGH HERE.

I WILL TEMPER MY RAGE FOR NOW, BUT ONLY BECAUSE A GREATER, MORE ***WORTHY*** TARGET AWAITS.

THAT'S ALL I ASK. CAN I DO THE TALKING INSIDE? MIGHT GO BETTER.

VERY WELL.

IT'S HIM.

100% CONFIRMED. INTEL WAS ***GOOD.***

PUT IN THE CALL. ***THE SCOURGE OF TWIN GALAXIES*** IS AT LONG LAST WITHIN OUR GRASP.

A WHOLE MECH BODY? YOU *KIDDING* ME?

FULL BODY? HEAD TO TOE?

FULL NEURAL ALIGNMENT? YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT... WELL... THAT'S A *COMPLICATED* PIECE OF MACHINERY.

YESSIR.

BUT YOU CAN BUILD IT?

BUILD IT? GOSH, NO. YOU CRAZY? I *SELL* THIS STUFF... I CAN DO A LITTLE MAINTENANCE IF NEED BE, BUT *BUILD IT?*

AIN'T A SINGLE SOUL ON THE WHOLE STATION CAPABLE OF BUILDING SOMETHING LIKE *THAT.*

OKAY...

SO THIS WAS A GIANT WASTE OF TIME.

MAYBE SO...

GOT ONE IN THE BACK THOUGH. PRACTICALLY *BRAND NEW.* THAT'S THE GOOD NEWS.

BAD NEWS IS, DANG THING IS SO *EXPENSIVE,* YOU'D PROBABLY HAVE TO WIN THE *BLOOD GAMES* TO BE ABLE TO AFFORD IT!

DID YOU SAY *BLOOD GAMES?*

BLOOD GAMES ROUND ONE

A NEW **MYSTERY CONTESTANT** HAS ENTERED THE GAMES! HE HAILS FROM PARTS UNKNOWN, AND HIS RECORD IS ZERO WINS AND ZERO LOSSES-- LET'S HEAR IT FOR **BATTLE BEAST!**

HIS OPPONENT IS NONE OTHER THAN **KRAKKO!** HAILING FROM THE CRYSTAL PALACE ON CORANTH, HIS RECORD IS NINE WINS AND THREE LOSSES. HE HOPES TO **REDEEM** HIMSELF THIS SEASON!

FIGHTERS, READY? LET THE BLOOD GAMES **BEGIN!**

=GRRRR!=

NOPE!

I YIELD! **I'M OUT!**

ROUND TWO

BATTLE BEAST WINS!

ROUND THREE

BATTLE BEAST WINS!

ROUND FOUR

I CALCULATE A LESS THAN ZERO-POINT-THREE PERCENT CHANCE OF WINNING. EVACUATING COMBAT FORM.

I'M SORRY, CAPTAIN. THE MISSION HAS FAILED.

BATTLE BEAST WINS!

ROUND FIVE

BATTLE BEAST WINS!

FINAL ROUND

...AND HIS OPPONENT, THE NEWLY MINTED TWO-TIME CHAMPION! THE UNCARING, UNYIELDING, UNDEFEATED--UNKNOWN!

FACE ME IF YOU DARE, FURRY ONE! BUT KNOW THAT YOU STARE DOWN THE MEANS OF YOUR ULTIMATE DEMISE!

I LIVE *ONLY* FOR BATTLE! I WILL KEEP CRUSHING MY ENEMIES BENEATH MY FEET UNTIL ONE IS STRONG ENOUGH TO GRANT ME A *WORTHY* DEATH IN *GLORIOUS COMBAT!*

=HEH.=

SAME.

KRAKOOM!!

=GRAAGH!=

WRAMM!

CHOMP!

=GAAHH!=

SKRAAGGH!

ALAS.

IT APPEARS *YOU* WILL BE THE ONE GRANTED THE WORTHY DEATH!

MY LIMITS ARE *UNKNOWN!*

MY POWER IS *UNKNOWN!*

I AM UNKNOWN!

YOUR *DEATH* IS AT HAND!

WE WILL SEE.

YOUR WEAKNESSES ARE *KNOWN.*

SVAOSH!

YOUR LIMITS ARE *KNOWN.*

SKRANGG!

YOUR DEMISE---

SHUKK!

--VERY KNOWN!

SWWWSH!

WHAT?

HMMM.

STOP! YOU HAVE WON. THE BLOOD GAMES HAVE CEASED!

NO FURTHER HARM NEED BEFALL THIS INDIVIDUAL.

HE WAS NOT HIMSELF, BUT YOU HAVE SAVED HIM FROM THAT, AND HE CAN NOW REJOIN US ON OUR VOYAGES.

YOU HAVE DONE US A GREAT SERVICE, BATTLE BEAST. OUR FRIEND, WORG, WAS LOST TO HIS "VENGEANCE PHASE", A COCOON STATE THAT PREPARES HIS KIND FOR LATER LIFE.

I DO NOT CARE. YOUR LIVES ARE OF NO CONCERN TO ME.

I HAVE WON THE BLOOD GAMES!

WHERE IS MY REWARD?!

OH, MAN... THIS FEELS SOOO MUCH BETTER.

JUST TO BE UPRIGHT AGAIN AND NOT DRAGGING MYSELF ACROSS THE GROUND.

PRINCE SALAKA IS BACK, BABY!

OUR BUSINESS HERE IS CONCLUDED.

COME.

THANKS, FRIEND! YOUR BUSINESS IS ALWAYS WELCOME HERE!

DON'T YOU FEEL GOOD?

WHY WOULD I FEEL GOOD?

YOU REALLY DON'T GET IT?

YOU HELPED TWO PEOPLE TODAY? YOU HELPED ME GET A NEW BODY, AND YOU SAVED THAT WORG GUY FROM WHATEVER WEIRD COCOON STATE HE WAS TRAPPED IN.

AND YOU GOT TO DO A BUNCH OF FIGHTING STUFF YOU CLEARLY ENJOYED ALONG THE WAY.

WELCOME BACK. EXCELLENT NEW BODY. I APPROVE.

I FEEL NOTHING.

ARE YOU SURE?

UNDOCKING.

KHOOM!

OH, UM.

OH, NO.

IT APPEARS WE ARE LOCKED IN A TRACTOR BEAM. THE SHIP IS UNABLE TO ESCAPE.

BATTLE BEAST. AT LONG LAST I'VE FOUND YOU.

YOU WILL **SURRENDER** OR BE TAKEN WITH **FORCE.** AS HEAD MAGISTRATE FOR THE TWIN GALAXIES, I'M HONOR BOUND TO BRING YOU BACK TO OUR CAPITAL WORLD, ANGORTH.

THERE YOU WILL BE TRIED FOR YOUR CRIMES AGAINST MY PEOPLE AND SUMMARILY **EXECUTED.**

YOU HAVE ONE MINUTE TO ANNOUNCE YOUR SURRENDER.

OH, NO! HOWEVER DID THEY FIND YOU?

IT WAS ME. I DID IT. I DISCOVERED THE LITTLE "SCOURGE OF TWIN GALAXIES" THING WHILE SEARCHING FOR WORTHY OPPONENTS. SO I REPORTED YOU.

I HATE YOU, BATTLE BEAST.

HELLO READERS!

Welcome to issue #2! If you're a long time reader of Invincible comics, welcome back! If you're new to comics and are here straight from our Amazon Prime INVINCIBLE series, welcome! We have such an amazing readership of those that have been following us for decades, and the new readers that are experiencing the world of comics for the first time. The fact that we are growing the comics community is a dream come true! I want as many as possible to enjoy this art medium I've loved since I was 14 years old living in West Jordan, Utah. I was a kid who loved to draw, who dreamed of being an artist, and when I saw comics, I knew exactly what kind of artist I wanted to be. My first professional gig, you guessed it, INVINCIBLE. Creator-owned comics is my first love. I've gone on to work at other publishers, but I couldn't stay away from creator-owned comics. So here we are. Back at it!

BATTLE BEAST is actually my dream project. Don't tell Robert, but since we ended the INVINCIBLE series back in 2018, I've missed working with him. We worked together for 14 years on INVINCIBLE, and on much shorter titles like HAUNT and RICK GRIMES 2000. Robert knows what I like to draw. He knows what will get me excited to draw every day. We made some killer Battle Beast scenes during the INVINCIBLE run when he'd come back here and there. But doing a title that is solely to let him shine, to be the main focus, I'm just beyond excited and I cannot wait for you all to experience this insane story we have brewing. This is exactly where I want to be in comics, back in our Invincible Universe.

-Ryan Ottley

SEND EMAILS TO:
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CHARACTER SKETCHES BY **RYAN OTTLEY**

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THE CARNAGE CONTINUES IN ISSUE #3

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